

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 35 and 53 as follows (Claims 1-34 and 36-52 being previously canceled).

Claims 1-34 (Canceled).

35.(Currently Amended) An in vitro method for screening substances for new immunosuppressive agents, comprising:
culturing mammalian T-lymphocytes;
exposing the cultured T-lymphocytes to a potential immunosuppressive agent in the presence of a known lymphocyte activator; and
detecting a change in the expression level of Pituitary Tumor Transforming Gene (PTTG) ~~PTTG~~ in the T-lymphocytes compared to control T-lymphocytes not exposed to the potential immunosuppressive agent, whereby downregulation of ~~PTTG~~ ~~PTTG~~ expression ~~is being~~ indicative of an immunosuppressive capacity possessed by the potential immunosuppressive agent.

Claims 36-52 (Canceled).

53.(Currently Amended) An in vitro method for screening substances for new immunoenhancing agents that enhance the activation of mammalian T-lymphocytes, comprising:
culturing the T-lymphocytes;
exposing the cultured T-lymphocytes to a potential immunoenhancing agent; and
detecting a change in the expression level of ~~PTTG~~ in the T-lymphocytes compared to control T-lymphocytes not exposed to the potential immunoenhancing agent, whereby upregulation of ~~PTTG~~ expression ~~is being~~ indicative of an immunoenhancing capacity possessed by the potential immunoenhancing agent.